



United States Attorney's Office
District of Columbia

Channing D. Phillips
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NEWS RELEASE

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Nineteen-year-old District Man Found Guilty of Kidnaping and First Degree Sexual Abuse

WASHINGTON - A Superior Court jury has found a 19-year-old District of Columbia man, Steven A. Johnson, guilty of abducting a woman off the street, assisting another man in raping her, and then raping her himself, Acting U.S. Attorney Channing D. Phillips announced today. Johnson was found guilty of kidnapping and two counts of first degree sexual abuse following a one-week trial.

According to the government's evidence at trial, on July 31, 2008, the defendant, who was 18 years old at the time of this offense, and two other men were driving in a silver KIA Optima when they approached the 18-year-old victim, who was walking to a friend's house. The defendant and another man forced the victim into the car and the three men drove the victim to an alley in the rear of the 200 block of Randolph Place, NE, where two of the three men – including the defendant – took turns raping her.

After the assault, the men stole the victim's cellular phone and then drove away in the silver KIA. The car, which belonged to the defendant's mother, was recovered a week later near Saratoga Avenue and 14th Street, NE. Fibers from the car matched fibers found on the victim's skirt.

At sentencing, defendant Johnson faces a maximum sentence of life imprisonment without parole. He will be sentenced before the Honorable Frederick Weisberg of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia on October 2, 2009. In January of this year, a Superior Court jury convicted Marcel A. Johnson, one of the other men involved in this incident. He was 17-years-old at the time of the offense, but charged as an adult. Marcel Johnson was sentenced last month to 18 years in prison.

In announcing the guilty verdict, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips praised the outstanding work of the lead Detective Ingrid Harkins, of the Metropolitan Police Department, who was supported by a team of dedicated individuals from numerous law

enforcement agencies. The U.S. Attorney also acknowledged the hard work of the following members of the Metropolitan Police Department: Detectives Wallace Carmichael, Randal Parker, Randy Brooks, Todd Amis, Anthony Commodore and Leon Epps; Sergeants Kevin Rice and George Gray; Officer Georgette Littlejohn; Evidence Technicians Richard Steven Griffin, Ronald Royster, Dwayne Mitchell, Natasha Pettus, Valerie Campbell and David Murray; Fingerprint Examiner Willie Higginbotham; Trace Evidence Examiner Harold Deadman; Evidence Operations Supervisor Douglas Deedrick; and Krystyna Hopkinson of the MPD Crime Lab. The U.S. Attorney also recognized the outstanding collaboration of other Federal and local law enforcement partners, including: Deputy U.S. Marshals Richard Kelly, Roger Wilson, Martin Flynn, Jay Ciambrone, William Straw, Stephen Marks, Justin Engen and Stephen Barros and U.S. Marshal Service Inspectors Christopher Street, Brian Sheppard and Andrew Smith; Deputy Alex Maldonado of the Prince George's County Sheriff's Office; DNA Examiners Nicole Nicklow and Rhonda Craig of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; EMT/Firefighters Ericca Dixon and Whitney Ward of the District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department; Tammie Creamer of the District of Columbia Office of Unified Communications; and Investigator Durand Odom of the U.S. Attorney's Office. In addition, the U.S. Attorney acknowledged the support of Victim Advocates Iris Vega and Tracey Hawkins, Victim Service Coordinator La June Thames, Paralegal Specialist Cynthia Muhammad, Legal Assistant Charmonique Price, and the entire Litigation Technology Support Unit. Finally, the U.S. Attorney commended the hard work and dedication of Assistant U.S. Attorney David M. Rubenstein, who investigated and prosecuted the case.

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